

FLEDGE LEDGE EDGE

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Some readers supposed that the flying elf my mother Dode saw (February Fledge Ledge Edge) was the Deified New Bybwen Flex Elf. Not so. It was her own doppelganger, the Flee Elf, an unacknowledged projection of her Flesh Self. Everyone has one, though the flying ones (sadly, a fugue state) are harder to catch. When I did, mine was like a leprechaun; I had to trick these wordplays out of it by promising it a credit. So, it's name is...where did I put that piece of paper? Well, just so you know I didn't write these!

1 MALAPROPISM: A salted batter on the linguini Franco-American by masseuse of words, sometimes far deranged from the opprobrium, making you sound as portentous, officious and pompadour'd as Mrs. Malaprop. Can tickle with the unexpectated, but infrequents the reaches of the maxillary humerus.

2 SPOONERISMS: Named for Rev. Spooner, dearest Pastor, so it's neally rot tare foo peep kicking on the core old poot. Pest in Reese dill preserved, weerest Disaster.

3 PUNS: About puns, I was initially negative, and hoped getting married would change my initials. But as you know from this month's Kickshaws, that didn't happen. As you also know from Kickshaws, there's a pun-running debate over the correct reading of Robert Frost's "Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening," which may in the end (who knows?) rival the nubilously fabled Morrystown Fables. I'm tempted to enter

Who's Swoosie Kurtz, I'd like to know --
The soused sis in that vile edge show.
She's Wilshire's seamy Guinevere...

but thought a slander suit might bring down the Word Ways publishing empire, unless the editor caught that it was less pun-playing than Anguish Languish (whatever the difference is). So I'm opting for dudes in a sorry weaving of "Swappin' For Goods From A No-Win Thievin'"

Whose goods these are, I bet I know.
His cabin's in the boonies though.
He didn't see you stash his gear?
You musta watched and seed him go.

What's this? A whittled horse? Thing's queer.
You shoulda shed this stuff, I sweer.

Between these hoes and broken rakes,
That mark's jest peevin' me, y'hear?

Hey, catch this hula doll; she shakes.
My trash can for his garden stakes.
My mule ain't sound; toss for his Jeep?
An easy win. Heads down. The breaks.

These goods are no-good, old and cheap,
But I got possum mitts to keep,
And Miles, the gopher, for his sheep,
And Miles, the gopher, for his sheep.

4 DOUBLE DACTYLS: Last seen in Word Ways in May 1980. The rules: two measures of 3/4 time. The first line should be nonsense. The second's a proper name. Third, fourth, fifth and seventh keep the time, and sixth must be one word. Eighth rhymes with fourth.

Higgledy-Piggledy	:	Pliffity-Ploofity
Horse Secretariat	:	Higgledy-Piggledies
Ran for the Roses at	:	Rise like a puff of smoke;
Old Churchill Downs.	:	Then they are done.

Frankfort's the capital	:	Sagas or Odysseys
Misunderstandably;	:	Unexpeditiously
Louisville had The Horse.	:	Last through the centuries,
Horse had the Crown.	:	But they're less fun.

So, since it's so sad when they stop, and this is the 20th anniversary of his feat..

Lunketty-Munketty
Baltimore, Maryland
Watched Secretariat
Tear up the course.

On to the Belmont for
Unbeatability.
Fans saw a legend born;
Triple Crown Horse!

5 RICOCHET WORD: Clip-Clop Tick-Tock Flimflam Bric-a-Brac -- a word that echoes itself. (Also known, less pithily, as a Third Order Reduplication.) Making up two meaningless syllables to replace higgledy-piggledy isn't so easy in a language as nuttily adaptive and syncretistic as ours, and if higgledy-piggledy once meant 'without rhyme or reason,' now it means the tight opposite. For Secretariat: hiffity-hoofity? No. Mockety-Clockety? No. Thumpety-Rumpety Nippity-Whippity Oopsiddy-Doopsiddy? Nope, they're all too okeyly-dokeyly apt.

6 STINK PINK, STINKY PINKY, STINKETY PINKETY: A two-word rhymed pair of one to three syllables each (one's a Stink Pink, two's Stinky, and so forth, but most people call them all Stinky Pinkies). Last seen in Word Ways in May 1995.

Horse Course (the Belmont track)
 Roses Poses (photo session of the Derby winner)
 Peoplerace Steeplechase (jumping over seats and railings to cash in the win tickets)
 Boob Tube (the tank top you wear after you've lost your shirt on Falso Dan, the also-ran)

And if you're into dog racing instead, there's Whippet Nippet: a bad dog, a bad pun, a bad Stinky-Pinky.

7 LOGOS: In advertising jargon, an identifying phrase and/or graphic that (supposedly) makes a company memorable and identifiable. As this is being written months before you're reading it, I don't know how the stock market is now, but assuming you're not in boob tubes from it, how about a Big Board quiz? With the market's ticker symbols sometimes pretty obscure, do these logos help you identify their corporations?

NKE just do it	DD better things for better living
AXP do more	ADM supermarket to the world
T your true choice	PFE we're part of the cure
F quality is job one	SOC now <u>there's</u> a bright idea!
FDX the way the world works	S come see the softer side of...
LU we make the things that make communications work	

Without the symbol, who brings good things to life? Without the logo, who's Z? Who's GAP? Wrong! See Answers and Solutions.

8 NO-NO RHYMES: Though it looks like it should / fit the mould,
 It's a word / like a sword / that gets foul'd.
 To the neophyte rhymer
 Who relies on a primer,
 You better could / imitate Gould.

9 WORD SQUARES:	Numbered Read	Boxed
	NUMB ERE DREAD	BOX ED NUMBER
	ERE BRAIN LESS	ED DUMBER ONE
	DREAD LESS READ	NUMBER ONE ME

10 LIMERICKS: Not necessarily dirty; just a little outré.

In bikini a vag at Crag Harbor
 Sags like a flag in the arbor.
 The vacationers there
 All go 'agh' as they stare,
 "Snag a rag for that hag and (agh!) garb 'er!"

On the other hand, those at the Vineyard
 Prefer girls, if anything, thinner'd
 If such news is a bother,
 Take a jug to Grandfather
 Mountain and pour vineyard inward!

11 PERFECT SENSE, MAKES: under research.

Well, maybe by August. Anyway, found that piece of paper. Hmm...must be Southern. The F.L.E. elf is "Scarfin' Fatback", Go figure. (If you can't, wait for upcoming F.L.E. self-revelations.)

ALL OVER THE MAP AGAIN

Word Ways August 1995 reviewed David Jouris's *All Over the Map*, 33 maps of the United States containing names of cities and towns with a related theme: Latin words, plants and flowers, stars and planets, etc. He has now issued a sequel with 34 more: palindromes and reversals, cheeses, New York or California names in other states, short names (mostly three letters), etc. . It is available in paperback from Ten Speed Press for \$11.95.